Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1-5, 23-24, 26-36, 73-74, 85-90, and 92-95. Please add new claims 97-104. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a primer sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to at least a first portion of a polypeptide encoding portion of a nucleic acid; and

a collar sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to at least a second portion of ~~the~~ said polypeptide encoding portion of ~~the~~ a nucleic acid, ~~the~~ said second portion ~~of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid~~ being separated by at least 20 nucleotides from ~~the~~ said first portion ~~of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid~~;

wherein the primer sequence and the collar sequence adjoin one another to create at least one restriction site.

2. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein ~~the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to~~ said nucleic acid is a first strand cDNA.

3. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein ~~the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to~~ said nucleic acid is mRNA.

4. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim ~~1~~ 3 wherein ~~the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to~~ said mRNA ~~encoding~~ encodes at least a portion of an antibody.

5. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein ~~the collar sequence is capable of annealing to the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid that is separated in the 5' direction from the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid to which the primer sequence~~

~~is capable of annealing~~ said first portion is 3' of said second portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of a nucleic acid.

6. (Original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 1.

7-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to at least a first portion of an antibody encoding portion of mRNA;

an upstream collar sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to at least a second portion of ~~an~~ said antibody encoding portion of ~~the~~ mRNA; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

24. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein ~~the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said second portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework region of an antibody.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim [[23]] 24 wherein ~~the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said second portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework region ~~associated with~~ of a light chain of an antibody.

27. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim [[23]] 24 wherein ~~the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said second portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework region ~~associated with~~ of a heavy chain of an antibody.

28. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein ~~the downstream primer sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a constant region of an antibody.

29. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim [[23]] 28 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a constant region ~~associated with~~ of a light chain of an antibody.

30. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region ~~associated with~~ of a light chain of an antibody.

31. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim [[23]] 28 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a constant region ~~associated with~~ of a heavy chain of an antibody.

32. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region ~~associated with~~ of a heavy chain of an antibody.

33. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 4 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a ~~framework region~~ portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

34. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 8 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

35. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 3 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

36. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 7 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

37. (Original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 23.

38-72. (Cancelled)

73. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer sequence and the upstream collar sequence[[s]].

74. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer sequence and the upstream collar sequence[[s]].

75-84. (Cancelled)

85. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA, said first portion encoding at least a portion of a first framework region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of ~~the~~ mRNA, said second portion encoding at least a portion of a second framework region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

86. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein ~~the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said second portion ~~of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes at least a portion of a framework region of a light chain ~~associated with~~ of an antibody.

87. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein ~~the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a~~ said second portion ~~of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes at least a portion of a framework region of a heavy chain ~~associated with~~ of an antibody.

88. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region ~~associated with~~ of a light chain of an antibody.

89. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a~~ said first portion ~~of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding~~ encodes a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region ~~associated with~~ of a heavy chain of an antibody.

90. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer sequence and the upstream collar sequence[[s]].

91. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 85.

92. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer sequence being capable of annealing during a polymerase reaction to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA, said first portion encoding at least a portion of a constant region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence of at least 10 nucleotides incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing during said polymerase reaction to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of ~~the~~ mRNA, said second portion encoding at least a portion of a framework region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

93. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a~~ said constant region is ~~associated with~~ a constant region of a light chain of an antibody.

94. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein ~~the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a~~ said constant region is ~~associated with~~ a constant region of a heavy chain of an antibody.

95. (Currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer sequence and the upstream collar sequence[[s]].

96. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 92.

97. (New) The plasmid of claim 1 wherein said polymerase is a DNA polymerase or a reverse transcriptase.

98. (New) The plasmid of claim 23 wherein said polymerase is a DNA polymerase or a reverse transcriptase.

99. (New) The plasmid of claim 85 wherein said polymerase is a DNA polymerase or a reverse transcriptase.

100. (New) The plasmid of claim 92 wherein said polymerase is a DNA polymerase or a reverse transcriptase.

101. (New) The plasmid of claim 1 wherein said primer sequence is at least 15 nucleotides and said collar sequence is at least 15 nucleotides.

102. (New) The plasmid of claim 23 wherein said primer sequence is at least 15 nucleotides and said collar sequence is at least 15 nucleotides.

103. (New) The plasmid of claim 85 wherein said primer sequence is at least 15 nucleotides and said collar sequence is at least 15 nucleotides.

104. (New) The plasmid of claim 92 wherein said primer sequence is at least 15 nucleotides and said collar sequence is at least 15 nucleotides.